

**Claims**

1. Internal combustion engine having pressure lubrication according to the dry sump principle, in particular for an opposed-cylinder engine, having a crankcase in which an oil suction space (dry sump) is provided in the lower part so that the lubricant oil is conveyed out of the sump through an oil return pump provided with an oil suction line to an oil supply container (wet sump) while the lubricant oil in the oil supply container and/or the oil supply space is conveyed to the consumers via a main delivery pump, characterized in that an annular space (32, 34) arranged around the cylinders is provided as part of the oil return to the oil supply container (16, 18).

2. Internal combustion engine as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the annular spaces (32, 34) that are formed and are open to the crank space are sealed by a gasket (36).

3. Internal combustion engine as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the annular spaces (32, 34) are vented.

4. Internal combustion engine as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the oil supply space (16, 18) forming the wet sump is integrated into the crankcase of the internal combustion engine.

5. Internal combustion engine as claimed in Claim 4, characterized in that the (wet sump) oil supply space (16, 18) is integrated into the crankcase (2, 4) such that it is separated from the dry sump space (12) by one or more bulkhead walls (14a, 14b, 14c).

6. Internal combustion engine as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the crankcase (2, 4) is manufactured in the so-called open deck design.